

STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY

4201 Patterson Avenue ● Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299 Michael N. Souranis, Board President - LaVerne G. Naesea, Executive Director

May 15, 2013

Re: Wholesale Distributor Permit Renewal

Dear Wholesale Distributor Permit Holder:

As you know, Maryland Wholesale Distributor Permits are set to expire on May 31, 2013. The Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") understands that certain permit holders experienced issues when attempting to renew their permits online. Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Gov's § 10-226(b), a permit does not expire until the Board takes action on the renewal application as long as the permit holder "makes sufficient application for renewal" of the permit "at least 2 calendar weeks before a [permit] expires." Due to the online renewal issues the system has been shut down. The Board will extend the two week deadline to submit a complete paper renewal application to the Board from May 17, 2013, to May 22, 2013. Applicants who submit complete applications and all required attachments to the Board, postmarked by May 22, 2013, will be allowed to continue working on its existing permit after May 31, 2013, while the Board processes the renewal application.

The Board is also aware that some permit holders have experienced issues acquiring federal background checks and that background checks sent directly to the FBI can take up to eight (8) weeks to yield results. The Board normally requires federal background check results to be included with a complete renewal application; however, the Board has determined that it will treat a renewal application as "sufficient" if evidence that the applicant has submitted the required FBI background requests are included with the otherwise complete application. Again, such applicants will be allowed to continuing working on their existing permits only if their renewal applications are submitted and postmarked on or before May 22, 2013. A renewal application will not be processed in full until the results of the federal background checks are received by the Board.

Please contact Latoya Waddell, Licensing Programs Manager, at (410) 764-4704, or by email at latoya.waddell@maryland.gov with any questions or concerns.

NOTE: Facilities allowed to operate after May 31, 2013 while the Board processes their applications, may be verified on the Board's web site at: http://dhmh.maryland.gov/pharmacy. The term "ACTIVE" is reflected for the distributor if a Board determination is pending (will reflect 5/31/2013 expiration) or a renewed permit has been issued. All other designations ("NON-RENEWED" or "CLOSE") signify that the wholesale distributor permit is not active and prescription drugs or devices may not be distributed under the Maryland permit number.

Sincerely,

LaVerne G. Naesea Executive Director

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cc: Latoya Waddell